

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein the DNA comprises one or more fragments of a gene.

7. (Twice Amended) A method according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the synthetic failures separated are molecules containing a uridine, apurinic, apyrimidinic or diaminopurine residue.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 9, wherein the DNA comprises one or more fragments of a gene.

Please add new claims 11-14 to read as follows:

11. (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising joining oligonucleotides from the population depleted of synthetic failures, to other synthetic oligonucleotides.

12. (New) A method according to claim 11, wherein a gene or gene fragment is formed when the oligonucleotides are joined.

13. (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising joining oligonucleotides from the population depleted of synthetic failures, to other synthetic oligonucleotides.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein a gene or gene fragment is formed when the oligonucleotides are joined.